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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Berlin

DATE DISTR. 26 April 1950

SUBJECT Estimate of Situation

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Recent propaganda put out by the SED and the Russians has been designed to quiet the apprehensions of the population of the western sectors as to the "Deutschlandtreffen" of the FDJ, scheduled for 28 May. The point has been emphasized that the western powers are trying to make a mountain out of a molehill. It now appears likely that the Soviet authorities will make a final decision on the scope of the meeting only at the last minute. Their maximum aims will probably be only a disruptive demonstration (described as a "peaceful demonstration"), with no intention to occupy public buildings.
2. The Berlin population shows signs of increased confidence. Morale has been raised by a slight improvement in business and a further reduction in unemployment. The belief has spread that the United States is now willing and able to protect Berlin.
3. The increase in confidence might, of course, lead Allied and German officials to let themselves be lulled into a false sense of security. However, the propaganda to be expected from the Communists on the eve of the meeting would tend to bring the city once more to a state of full preparedness.

CLASSIFICATION

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